

The co-operation of all our botanical associates is solicited in this regard, as a matter of common interest and advantage. For we are all equally concerned in forwarding the progress of the Flora of North America; and we may confidently expect from our botanical associates their sympathy, their forbearance, and their continued aid.

**Albinism in *Gentiana crinita*.**—I noticed in the window of one of our Boston city florists a few mornings ago two large bunches of white fringed gentian, and on enquiry learned that they came from Middlesex County, Mass. The petals of the open flowers were creamy white, and the face had a beautiful satiny lustre.

Later my friend Storror Higginson informed me that he had seen in another florist's window white gentians that were gathered in Brookline, Mass. Mr. Higginson procured a specimen for analysis, but could not find any other difference between it and the normally blue flowers. He commented, however, on the perfect whiteness of the fringe.

I do not now recall any previous mention of albinism in this flower, although it may have been recorded. I have not time at present to look it up, but in any case a record of the present instances may be of interest.—GEO. E. DAVENPORT, *Medford, Mass.*

***Trifolium hybridum*, L.**—On reading, in the October number of the GAZETTE, Mr. James' note on this species of *Trifolium*, I thought it might be of interest to note, that in Western Canada it is not at all uncommon, and about London I find it plentiful. It occurs not only in old fields and along fence sides, but I have found it in woodlands and along the borders of cedar swamps at quite a little distance from any cultivated ground, showing that here at least it has become pretty firmly fixed.

In a synopsis of the Flora of the Valley of the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes, published by Profs. Macoun and Gibson, in the Canadian Journal for January 1877, it is catalogued as "Introduced. Cultivated fields and along fences. Is very extensively cultivated in the West instead of *T. pratense*."

It is also reported from Eastern Canada in the vicinity of Ottawa, in the proceedings of the Ottawa Field Naturalist's Club for 1879 and '80, and in a letter just to hand from Prof. Macoun, he tells me that he found this species of *Trifolium* growing most luxuriantly at the foot of the Schickshook Mountains, Quebec, in the vicinity of an old camp, thirty miles from any cultivation.—T. J. W. BURGESS, M. D., *London, Ontario, Canada.*

**A New Polyporus.**—POLYPORUS RENIFORMIS, n. sp. Pileus sessile or substipitate, reniform or dimidiate, ascending, concave above and convex below; the surface ferruginous, concentrically sulcate and subzonate; the margin thin and acute; the context ferruginous, soft, floccose, covered with a thin rigid rather elastic

crust: stratum of tubules occupying about a third of the pileus, ferruginous within, their mouths very small and covered but not closed with a white powder. Spores ferruginous, elliptic-ovoid, .008-.001 mm. long by .006-.007 mm. broad.

Pileus projecting 2-4 in. with a breadth of 3-6 in. and a thickness at the base of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. gradually thinning out all round to the edge. This species is properly always annual: there are indeed stratified specimens of two or three years growth but in all cases a new stratum of hymenophore is formed for each annual layer of tubules, leaving the preceding growths to crumble and decay.

Growing always about the base of old stumps in an ascending position: I have never found a specimen upon a log. I have met with the species from Dayton, O., down the Miami Valley to Cincinnati and into Kentucky beyond Lexington.

This is a curious member of the group of *FOMENTARIUM* of Fries. It has passed heretofore for *P. applanatus*, Pers., but the true *applanatus* grows here abundantly upon stumps and logs and Mr. James, Mr. Meyncke and myself readily distinguish one from the other upon sight. It will be seen that it has affinities also with *P. lucidus*, Leys.—A. P. MORGAN.

*Lactuca Scariola*, L.—This plant, possessing the habit of the Compass Plant in placing its vertical leaves so as to point to the poles, at the time of the publication of Gray's Manual, last edition, was known only at Cambridge, Mass. In a short time it has reached the Mississippi. It is quite abundant at Dayton, Ohio. At Put-in-Bay, Lake Erie it has already become a pest. It is beginning to make its appearance about Detroit, Mich. A few specimens (3-5) were observed by myself at Lincoln in Central Illinois. The above stations I found myself. It is in the list of H. Eggert of St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Bebb has found it at Rockford, Ill. The latter city is so close to Wisconsin that the plant probably grows there or soon will reach that state. A friend, not a botanist, but a good observer, claims to have seen the plant near Richmond, Indiana. The geographical distribution of *Lactuca Scariola*, therefore, west of the Alleghanies, would be *Ohio to Missouri and northward*.—AUG. F. FOERSTE, Dayton, Ohio.

**The Gazette for 1883.**—The attention of our readers is called to the fact that the time for the renewal of subscriptions has come. Every year has brought a large increase to our subscription list and we can assure our patrons that Volume VIII will contain much to interest and instruct. And again we would repeat to our more modest and retiring botanists what we have said so often, that while giving space to somewhat formal papers it is by no means to the exclusion of notes and scraps of information given in the most informal way.